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Sri V. BALAKRISHNAN :—" Sir, which hon. Member is guilty of the most expenditure on this account? "

The Hon. Sri C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" It is not only the hon. Members who put the main questions, but also those who put supplementary questions."

* 1286 *Q.*—

Mr. SPEAKER :—" This question will be taken up in the end."

State Electricity Board.

* 1287 *Q.*—Sri N. K. PALANISAMY : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state when a Board would be set up at Madras under the Electricity (Supply) Act of 1948?

The Hon. Sri R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer given on 8th February 1955 to his Question No. 557; there has been no change in the position since."

Sri N. K. PALANISAMY :—" என்ன காரணத்திற்காக அந்த போர்டை சர்க்கார் ஏற்படுத்தாமல் இருக்கிறார்கள்? ஜனங்களுக்கு சௌகரியங்கள் செய்துகொடுப்பதற்கு என்ன நடவடிக்கை எடுத்துக்கொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள்? "

The Hon. Sri R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" இதன் காரணங்களை எல்லாம் மின்சார டிமாண்டு வரும்போது சொல்லுவதாக உத்தேசம்."

Allegation against the Police, Mannarghat.

* 1288 *Q.*—Sri M. NARAYANA KURUP : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the Mannarghat Police, Walluvanad taluk, South Malabar, are taking an indifferent attitude in investigating the occurrence in Pulappatta amsam on 29th November 1954, when in open day-light some people waylaid one Allalath Sankara Panikker and inflicted grievous injuries on him including blinding his right eye; and

(*b*) if so, the action taken thereon?

The Hon. Sri C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" (*a*) No, Sir.

" (*b*) Does not arise."

Maternity ward of the Government Hospital, Usilampatti.

* 1289 *Q.*—Sri V. MUTHU : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the construction of a building for the maternity ward attached to the Government Hospital at Usilampatti in Madurai district has been completed, but has been kept unopened for the past six months; and

(*b*) if so, the reasons therefor?

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THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" (a) & (b) The Government had accepted the donation of the Madurai District Committee of the Madras Provincial Welfare Fund for the construction and equipment of a maternity ward in the Government Hospital, Usilampatti. The construction of the building was completed in March 1954. But the Committee paid the amount required for the equipment of the ward only in December 1954. The ward will be equipped and occupied shortly."

SRI V. MUTHU :—" உசிலம்பட்டியில் இருக்கும் ஆஸ்பத்திரி கிராமத்தின் மத்தியில் இருக்கிறது. அங்கு எப்போது பார்த்தாலும் நோயாளிகள் அதிகமாக வந்துகொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள். இந்த ஆஸ்பத்திரியில் ஒரு ஆண் டாக்டரும் ஒரு பெண் டாக்டரும் இருந்தார்கள், இப்போது ஆண் டாக்டரை வேறிடத்திற்கு மாற்றிவிட்டார்கள். லேடி டாக்டர் மெடர்டினிடி கேஸ்களையும் மற்ற கேஸ்களையும் கவனிக்கும்படியாக இருக்கிறது. அதனால் அவர்களுக்கு சிரமம் அதிகமாக இருக்கிறது. ஆதலால் ஆண் டாக்டர் எப்பொழுது அந்த ஆஸ்பத்திரியில் அமர்த்தப்படுவார் என்று அறிய விரும்புகிறேன்.

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" The Public Services Commission have now recruited medical men, both men and women, and I trust that the vacancies that we are having now would be filled up soon."

Increase of bus fare in Madras.

* 1290 Q.—SRI N. K. PALANISAMY: Will the Hon. the Minister for Religious Endowments and Transport be pleased to state—

(a) the date from which the charges per mile were increased in the City Transport system; and

(b) why the charges were increased?

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—" (a) & (b) The bus fares in Madras City have not been increased recently but they were only rationalized with effect from the 15th of November 1948 in accordance with the approval by the Government in November 1947 after due publication, viz., one anna for the first stage and six pies for every subsequent stage (a stage approximating as far as practicable to a mile)."

SRI S. DAIVASIGAMONEY :—" Sir, in view of the fact that the buses are the only means of conveyance for the poor men, also in view of the fact that Government are enjoying a monopoly of running the buses in the City of Madras after the stoppage of the trams and further in view of the fact that the cost of running the buses has come down because they are now running Diesel buses, will the Government think of lowering the rates in the City of Madras for the buses? "

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—" Ours is perhaps the lowest charge. Therefore, I do not think it is possible to consider reduction of rate at this stage."